

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
)  
Tomas GANDEMO ) Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
)  
Application No.: To Be Assigned ) Examiner: To Be Assigned  
)  
Filed: Herewith (November 21, 2003) ) Confirmation No.: To Be Assigned  
)  
For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH )  
IMPROVED CLOSING MECHANISM )

**FIRST**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Number	Applicant	Date
5,370,634	Ando et al.	12-06-1994
6,120,489	Johnson et al.	09-19-2000
2002/0112276	Ruman et al.	08-22-2002

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Number	Country	Date
2,267,024	United Kingdom	11-24-1993
89/07897	WIPO	09-08-1989
98/18421	WIPO	07-05-1998
96/35305	WIPO	11-21-1996

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003.

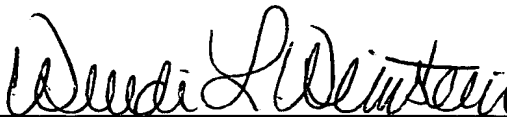
The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 21, 2003

By:   
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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO  <b>FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>	ATTORNEY'S DKT No. 018798-181	APPLICATION No. To Be Assigned
	APPLICANT Tomas GANDEMO	
	FILING DATE November 21, 2003	GROUP To Be Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	5,370,634		Ando et al.	12-06-1994
	6,120,489		Johnson et al.	09-19-2000
	2002/0112276	A1	Ruman et al.	08-22-2002

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes No
	2,267,024	A	United Kingdom	11-24-1993	
	89/07897	A1	WIPO	09-08-1989	
	98/18421	A1	WIPO	07-05-1998	
	96/35305	A1	WIPO	11-21-1996	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.